

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 11-13 are pending in the application. The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2 and 5-7 and 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ernst et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,565213). The Examiner has also rejected claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ernst in view of Connors et al. (US 6,907,918). Claims 8 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ernst et al in view of Low et al. (US 3,789,920).

Based on the May 1, 2006 telephone interview with the Examiner, Applicant has further amended claim 1 and cancelled claim 12. Two limitations of the amended claim 1 “a sintering powder layer attached to substantially the entire internal surface of the bottom lid, wherein the woven mesh is integrated with the sintering powder at the corner of the bottom” (emphases added) are not taught or disclosed by Ernst or other cited prior art. The two limitations are supported by the Specification and drawings and no new matter is added.

If the Examiner believes that a further telephonic interview will facilitate allowance of the claims, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (610) 446-5886. For the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully assert that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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